

(6) (800) [2w / 3m]

Jack mourns his dead brother prematurely

MPr: Mr. Worthing!
Chs Mr. Worthing?
MPr: This is indeed a surprise. We did not look for you till Monday afternoon.
Jk: I have returned sooner than I expected. Dr. Chasuble, I hope you are well?
Chs Dear Mr. Worthing, I trust this garb of woe does not betoken some terrible calamity?
Jk: My brother.
MPr: More shameful debts and extravagance?
Chs Still leading his life of pleasure?
Jk: Dead!
Chs Your brother Ernest dead?
Jk: Quite dead.
MPr: What a lesson for him! I trust he will profit by it.
Chs Mr. Worthing, I offer you my sincere condolence. [...]
Jk: Poor Ernest! He had some many faults, but it is a sad, sad blow.
Chs Very sad indeed. Were you with him at the end?
Jk: No. He died abroad; in Paris, in fact. I had a telegram last night. [...]
Chs Was the cause of death mentioned?
Jk: A severe chill, it seems.
MPr: As a man sows, so shall he reap.
Chs: [...] Will the interment take place here?
Jk: He [...] expressed a desire to be buried in Paris.
Chs In Paris! I fear that hardly points to any very serious state of mind at the last. You would no doubt wish me to make some slight allusion to this tragic domestic affliction next Sunday. [...]
Jk: Ah! that reminds me, [...] Dr. Chasuble? I suppose you know how to christen all right? [...]
MPr: It is, I regret to say, one of the Rector's most constant duties in this parish. [...]
Chs But is there any particular infant in whom you are interested, Mr. Worthing? [...]
Jk: Oh, yes.
Jk: But it is not for any child, dear Doctor. [...] No! the fact is, I would like to be christened myself. [...]
Chs But surely, Mr. Worthing, you have been christened already?
Jk: I don't remember anything about it.
[....]
Chs At what hour would you wish the ceremony performed? [...]
Jk: Would half-past five do?
Chs Admirably! [...] I would merely beg you not to be too much bowed down by grief. What seems to us bitter trials are often blessings in disguise.
MPr: This seems to me a blessing of an extremely obvious kind.

Ccl: Uncle Jack! Oh, I am pleased to see you back. But what horrid clothes you have got on! Do go and change them.
MPr: Cecily!
Chs My child! my child!
Ccl: What is the matter, Uncle Jack? Do look happy! [...] Who do you think is in the dining-room? Your brother!
Jk: Who?
Ccl: Your brother Ernest. He arrived about half an hour ago.
Jk: What nonsense! I haven't got a brother!
Ccl: Oh, don't say that. However badly he may behaved to you in the past he is still your brother. [...] I'll tell him to come out. And you will shake hands with him, won't you, Uncle Jack?
Chs These are very joyful tidings.
MPr: After we had all been resigned to his loss, his sudden return seems to me peculiarly distressing.
Jk: My brother is in the dining-room? [...] I think it is perfectly absurd.
Jk: Good heavens!
Alg: Brother John, I have come down from town to tell you that [...] I intend to lead a better life in the future.
Ccl: Uncle Jack, you are not going to refuse your own brother's hand?
Jk: [...] I think his coming down here disgraceful. He knows perfectly well why.
Ccl: Uncle Jack, do be nice. There is some good in everyone. Ernest has just been telling me about his poor invalid friend Mr. Bunbury whom he goes to visit so often. And surely there must be much good in one who is kind to an invalid, and leaves the pleasures of London to sit by a bed of pain.
Jk: Oh! he has been talking about Bunbury, has he?
Ccl: Yes, he has told me all about poor Mr. Bunbury, and his terrible state of health.
Jk: Bunbury! Well, I won't have him talk to you about Bunbury [...].
Alg: [...] I must say [...] I expected a more enthusiastic welcome, especially considering it is the first time I have come here.
Ccl: Uncle Jack, if you don't shake hands with Ernest, I will never forgive you. [...] Never, never, never!
Jk: Well, this is the last time I shall ever do it.
Chs It's pleasant, is it not, to see so perfect a reconciliation? I think we might leave two brothers together.
MPr: Cecily, you will come with us.
Ccl: Certainly, Miss Prism. My little task of reconciliation is over.
Chs You have done a beautiful action today, dear child.
MPr: We must not be premature in our judgements.
Ccl: I feel very happy.